

5

WATER

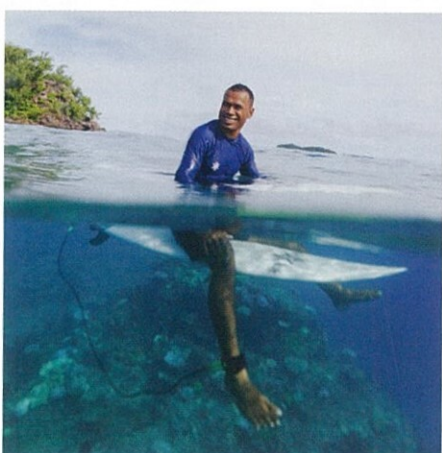
Beneath crystalline shores...

Steal away to a secluded sanctuary where privacy prevails and magnificent marine worlds thrive.

It's the kind of place that slows time. A treasure chest of corals beckons beneath a sparkling surface, manta rays glide idly along the currents, the curtains of beachfront villas billow in a balmy breeze. Tucked away among the Kadavu group of islands and home to the world's fourth-largest barrier reef, Kokomo Private Island Fiji is a world of natural wonder and quiet luxury. You'll feel right at home with its bounty of space and sublime beauty, spending slow days slipping into a dreamy tropical daze. You can do as much here (or as little) as you desire.

There are abundant ways to dive into Kokomo's pristine underwater playground. Cradled by the 100-kilometre Great Astrolabe Reef, the island grants access to more than 30 unique dive and snorkel sites, from lush anemone gardens to steep drop-offs. Navigate underwater caverns; glide alongside manta rays who are the ocean's gentle giants; snorkel through the crystalline waters; or obtain your PADI dive certification with an expert guide. For those who prefer to observe from the surface, there are glass-bottom boats, kayaks and stand-up paddleboards from which you can spot turtles, reef sharks and countless rainbow-hued fish. If adventure still calls, sail, surf, or deep-sea fish, bringing home fresh mackerel and marlin.

One of Kokomo's most unique experiences is its coral restoration and sustainability program. Guests can join marine biologists to



learn about sustainable coral garden design, assist with hands-on coral transplantations or even adopt a manta ray, ensuring Kokomo's beautiful marine environments are preserved for future generations. Join a guided wine tasting in the Wine Cellar or indulge in local delicacies at the Beach Shack – the beating heart of this tropical haven.

Back at the resort, unwind with a private yoga class or decompress with rejuvenating treatments in the Yaukuve Spa Sanctuary, which forms the centre of the island. Afterwards, treat your palate to chef Caroline Oakley's fabulous culinary creations at the scenic Walker D'Plank restaurant. Oakley cooks with heart, soul and smiles at the fore, fusing South Pacific

dishes with Asian flavours and garden aromatics. Indulge in her signature coconut poached fish with tomato, lime, chilli and blanched river fern to discover native Fijian ingredients at their finest.

Kokomo Private Island feels worlds apart from reality. Don't be surprised if you're tempted to linger and spend more days frolicking along the palm-fringed shores. It's the Kokomo spirit and people that will make you want to come back. kokomoislandfiji.com

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The glittering coastline found at Kokomo Private Island Fiji; a pontoon fit for seagazing; guests can help with coral restoration programs; surfing is also on offer; a tropical outlook from the Sunset Villa; the azure waters will beckon from morning till night